

GOVERNMENT OF TALANGANA

ABSTRACT

Forest Conservation Act – Proposal for diversion of 108.78 hectares of forest land in Rebbana and Tandur Reserved Forests under Bellampalli Range of Bellampalli Division, Adilabad Dist. in favour of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. for Bellampalli OC-II Extension Project 'B' and 'D' blocks – Final (stage-II) approval – Accorded.

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ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT  
G.O.MS.No. 24 Dated.22.11.2014.  
Read the following:

1. From PCCF, A.P, Hyd., Lr.Rc.No.48413/2007-F1,  
Dated:06-02-2009.
2. Govt. Letter No. 1110/FOR.I (1)/2009-1, EFS&T (For.I) Dept.  
Dated:27-02-2009.
3. From Govt. of India, MoEF, New Delhi Lr.No. F.No.8-21/2009-FC  
Dt. 18.01.2013 & 18.6.2014.
4. From PCCF, A.P, Hyd., Lr.Rc.No.48413/2007-F1 (i),  
Dated:05.11.2013.
5. Govt. Letter No.1110/FOR.I (1)/2009, EFS&T (For.I) Dept.,  
Dated:09-01-2014 and 30.6.2014.
6. From Govt. of India, MoEF, New Delhi, Lr.No. F.No.8-21/2009-FC  
dt. 04.09.2014.

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ORDER

In his letter 1<sup>st</sup> read above, the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Hyderabad has furnished a proposal for diversion of 108.78 hectares of forest land in Rebbana and Tandur Reserved Forests under Bellampalli Range of Bellampalli Division, Adilabad Dist. in favour of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. for Bellampalli Opencast-II Extension Project 'B' and 'D' blocks.

2. In the letter 2<sup>nd</sup> read above, the proposal in para-1 above was forwarded to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi for granting approval under section -2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980.

3. In their letter 3<sup>rd</sup> read above, the Ministry of Environment & Forests GoI have granted in-principle (Stage-I) approval for the above proposal, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated thereof.

4. In the letter 5<sup>th</sup> read above, the Government of Telangana have sent the report of compliance on the conditions stipulated by GoI, as submitted by the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana State, Hyderabad in his letter 4<sup>th</sup> read above, to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi for according necessary approval.

5. In their letter 6<sup>th</sup> read above, the Central Government have granted final approval for the proposal in para 1 above, under Section 2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated therein.

6. Accordingly, Government hereby accord **final (Stage-II)** approval for diversion of 108.78 hectares of forest land in Rebbana and Tandur Reserved Forests under Bellampalli Range of Bellampalli Division, Adilabad Dist. in favour of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. for Bellampalli Opencast-II Extension Project 'B' and 'D' blocks under section-2 of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:-

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- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. State Government shall raise and maintain from funds realized from the user agency compensatory afforestation over the non-forest land equal in extent to the forest land transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department;
- iii. The non-forest land which has been transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation shall be declared as Reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act. The Nodal Officer must report compliance within a period of six (6) months and send a original notification of RF/ PF as the case may be to the Central Government for confirmation and record;
- iv. Following activities shall be undertaken by the User Agency as per plan and approved EMP submitted by them, at the project cost:
  - (a) Execution of appropriate mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams as per the plan prepared by the user agency;
  - (b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion;
  - (c) Construction of check dams, retention/ toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour as per the design approved in the Environmental management Plan (EMP);
  - (d) Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading /benching so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than  $28^{\circ}$ ; and
  - (e) Strict adherence to the prescribed top soil management as per the EMP.
- v. The State Government shall realize from the user agency additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and transfer the same to the Ad-hoc CAMPA under intimation to this Ministry;
- vi. The user agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- vii. State forest Department shall undertaken fencing, protection and afforestation of the safely zone area (7.5 meter strip all along the outer boundary of the area identified to undertaken mining) from funds already realized from the user agency;
- viii. State Forest Department shall undertaken afforestation on degraded forest land, one and half time in extent to the area used for safety zone from funds already realized from the user agency;
- ix. To prevent encroachment of forest land by the 82 families residing on the forest land proposed for diversion the user agency shall prepare an appropriate Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R & R) plan containing detailed provision, including acquisition of land for resettlement of these families;
- x. The user agency shall track location of each displaced family and ensure that none of them encroach/occupy forest land. To demonstrate compliance with the said condition for at least from the date of taking possession of the forest land, the user agency shall submit an annual certificate to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Telangana that none of the persons displaced from the project land has encroached/settled on the forest land during the year

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- xi. The period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, or Rules framed there under, subject to a maximum period of 30 years;
- xii. User agency shall undertake gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.4), if any, located in the area within 100 m. from outer perimeter of the mining lease;
- xiii. The user agency shall undertake de-silting of the village tanks and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies, whenever required;
- xiv. The user agency shall undertake mining in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan shall be executed by the user agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 Government of Telangana and the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), Chennai. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed;
- xv. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xvi. The user agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;
- xvii. The boundary of the mining lease and safety zone shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar;
- xviii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- xix. The State Government of Telangana and the user agency shall ensure that the Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R & R) of the project affected families is undertaken strictly as per the approved R & R Package in a time bound and transparent manner;
- xx. Any other condition that the concerned Regional Officer of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
- xxi. User agency shall submit an annual report on compliance to conditions stipulated in this approval to State Government and concerned Regional Office of this Ministry; and
- xxii. The user agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

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7. The Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana State, Hyderabad shall take necessary action, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

J. RAYMOND PETER  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

To  
The Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),  
Telangana State, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and User Agency.  
The Director, Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests and  
Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road, New  
Delhi 110 003.

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//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER